As per available information, cement, fertilizers and chemicals are already being packed in 50 kg. bags.

As per the ILO Recommendation No. 128, Government has also been promoting the concept of 55 kg. carrying limit in other sectors through the following measures:

(i) Model Rules under the Factories Act have been circulated to State Governments (55 kg. for male and 30 kg. for female workers)

(ii) Dock Workers (Safety, Health & Welfare) Regulation, 1990 framed under Dock Workers (Safety, Health & Welfare) Act 1986 (which prescribe use of winch or other suitable technical means for handling any hatch cover or beam of any hatch weighing above 55 kg.)

(iii) Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Central Rules, 1998 (55 kg. for adult male, 30 kg. for adult female and 30 kg for adolescent male and 20 kg for adolescent female)

(iv) All Ministers/Departments of the Central Government and all State Governments have been requested to ensure that no worker is permitted to engage in manual transport of load exceeding 50 kg.

Reservation in Promotions in Selection Grade

*345. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had issued instructions for making reservation/promotion in the Selection Grade on the basis of judgement of the Supreme Court of India in Ajit Singh II on the analogy of the Ministry of Railways;

(b) if so, when official instructions were issued in this regard;

(c) whether these instructions are being implemented;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the State Governments have also sought clarifications in this connection; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Government of India have not issue any instructions regarding reservation/promotion in the Selection Grade on the basis of the Supreme Court Judgement in Ajit Singh II case on the analogy of the Ministry of Railways.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of what has been stated in part (a).

(e) and (f) No such communication has been received from any State Government.